

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 22, 2016, as “National Falls Prevention Awareness Day”;

(2) recognizes that there are proven, cost-effective falls prevention programs and policies;

(3) commends the 72 member organizations of the Falls Free Coalition and the falls prevention coalitions in 43 States and the District of Columbia for their efforts to work together to increase education and awareness about preventing falls among older adults;

(4) encourages businesses, individuals, Federal, State, and local governments, the public health community, and health care providers to work together to raise awareness of falls in an effort to reduce the incidence of falls among older adults in the United States;

(5) recognizes the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for its work developing and evaluating interventions for all members of health care teams to make falls prevention a routine part of clinical care;

(6) recognizes the Administration for Community Living for its work to promote access to evidence-based programs and services in communities across the United States;

(7) encourages State health departments and State units on aging, which provide significant leadership in reducing injuries and related health care costs by collaborating with organizations and individuals, to reduce falls among older adults; and

(8) encourages experts in the field of falls prevention to share their best practices so that their success can be replicated by others.

SENATE RESOLUTION 594—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR DESIGNATION OF THE THIRD SATURDAY IN OCTOBER 2016 AS “NATIONAL ANIMAL RESCUE DAY” TO CREATE AWARENESS OF AND EDUCATE INDIVIDUALS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF ADOPTION OF ANIMALS, TO CREATE A HUMANE ENVIRONMENT FOR ANY PET, AND TO ENCOURAGE ANIMAL ADOPTIONS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. WICKER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 594

Whereas between 7,000,000 and 8,000,000 companion animals are placed into animal shelters each year;

Whereas between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000 companion animals are euthanized each year;

Whereas a greater awareness of dog fighting and abuse encourages individuals to rehabilitate animals that would otherwise be put to sleep or left in animal shelters or rescues;

Whereas there are more than 13,000 animal shelters throughout the United States in need of pet supplies, medical supplies, blankets, towels, cleaning supplies, food, educational materials about owning a pet, and information on how to screen out unqualified applicants and to provide the best pet match for a family;

Whereas increased knowledge and awareness of animal rescue programs throughout the United States will significantly reduce the number of cats and dogs that are euthanized and animals that have been rescued that are left in animal shelters;

Whereas “National Animal Rescue Day” will alleviate the problem of pet overpopulation, provide animals with good homes, and create awareness of, and financial and educational resources to alleviate, the problems animal shelters face each day;

Whereas “National Animal Rescue Day” will encourage individuals to make their homes available for animals in need; and

Whereas the third Saturday in October 2016 would be an appropriate day to designate as “National Animal Rescue Day”, to be commemorated with appropriate events that will increase the number of pet adoptions: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports the designation of “National Animal Rescue Day”—

(1) to create awareness of animal rescue programs throughout the year; and

(2) to be commemorated with appropriate events that will increase the number of pet adoptions.

SENATE RESOLUTION 595—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL VETERANS SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. VITTER, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. AYOTTE, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. COONS, Mrs. ERNST, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship:

S. RES. 595

Whereas the Armed Forces of the United States train individuals with the skills, discipline, and leadership necessary to establish and operate a successful business;

Whereas there are approximately 2,500,000 veteran-owned small businesses in the United States, employing nearly 6,000,000 individuals;

Whereas veteran-owned businesses make up nearly 10 percent of all businesses in the United States;

Whereas veterans account for more than \$1,200,000,000,000 in business receipts every year;

Whereas veterans are 45 percent more likely to be self-employed than non-veterans;

Whereas, from 2007 to 2012, veteran-owned small businesses grew at nearly twice the rate of non-veteran-owned small businesses;

Whereas women veterans’ business ownership has increased significantly, from 97,114 in 2007 to 384,549 in 2012;

Whereas the Office of Veterans Business Development of the Small Business Administration is dedicated to maximizing the availability and usability of small business programs for veterans, members of a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States, members of the Armed Forces of the United States serving on active-duty, transitioning service members, and the spouses, dependents, or survivors of those members and veterans;

Whereas the Small Business Administration serves more than 200,000 veterans, service-disabled veterans, women veterans, and military spouses annually;

Whereas, in 2014, the Small Business Administration increased loans to veterans by more than 100 percent, guaranteeing more than \$1,000,000,000 in small business loans;

Whereas the entrepreneurship training program of the Small Business Administration, Boots to Business, has trained more than 30,000 service members, veterans, and spouses of service members and veterans since launching in 2013;

Whereas the Small Business Administration will be hosting events honoring Na-

tional Veterans Small Business Week from October 31 through November 4, 2016;

Whereas the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate will be commemorating National Veterans Small Business Week during the week of October 31 through November 4, 2016; and

Whereas the week of October 31 through November 4, 2016, would be an appropriate time to celebrate National Veterans Small Business Week: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate joins with the Small Business Administration in—

(1) supporting the goals and ideals of National Veterans Small Business Week;

(2) celebrating the millions of people in the United States, especially the veterans of the United States and the spouses of those veterans, who benefit from the programs of the Small Business Administration; and

(3) expressing appreciation for the continued service to the United States by the veterans of the United States through small business ownership and entrepreneurship.

SENATE RESOLUTION 596—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2016 AS “PULMONARY FIBROSIS AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. KIRK, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 596

Whereas pulmonary fibrosis is a debilitating and ultimately fatal condition that causes progressive scarring in the lungs and generally has no known definitive cause;

Whereas as many as 200,000 individuals in the United States are known to suffer from pulmonary fibrosis, the majority of whom are between the ages of 50 and 75;

Whereas the average survival rate for the idiopathic form of pulmonary fibrosis is just 2.8 years and up to 80 percent of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis patients die within 5 years of diagnosis;

Whereas pulmonary fibrosis takes the lives of 40,000 individuals in the United States each year, approximately 1 death every 13 minutes;

Whereas many patients with pulmonary fibrosis are misdiagnosed for 1 year or longer after the patients are presenting with pulmonary fibrosis symptoms;

Whereas as of September 2016, there are no biomarkers for screening and testing for pulmonary fibrosis;

Whereas a cure or drug that is effective for all pulmonary fibrosis patients that would extend life or universally improve symptoms does not exist;

Whereas the symptoms of pulmonary fibrosis vary from person to person and include shortness of breath, a dry cough, fatigue, weight loss, and aching muscles and joints;

Whereas volunteers, researchers, caregivers, and medical professionals are working to improve the quality of life for individuals with pulmonary fibrosis and the families of those individuals; and

Whereas developing more effective treatments for pulmonary fibrosis and providing access to quality care to individuals with pulmonary fibrosis requires increased research, education, and community support services: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2016 as “Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Month”;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Month;

(3) continues to support more robust and accelerated research to develop more effective treatments for pulmonary fibrosis and to ultimately find a cure for the disease;